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BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY



Annual Report

of

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

1958

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1958)

Chairman : Alderman Mrs. E. Price.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor E. Brunskill.

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman V. Steed).

Alderman G. W. Price.

Councillor W. A. Griffiths.

„ C. P. Birkin.

„ N. L. Small.

„ H. Ashby.

„ L. V. Waldron.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

(at 31st December 1958)

Medical Officer of Health :

H. A. H. Summers, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

(Six-elevenths of whose time is allotted to the Staffordshire County Council as Medical Officer to their No. 9 Area Health Committee).

Chief Public Health Inspector :

F. J. Turner, M.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector :

R. H. Mann, A.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

J. McKechnie, M.A.P.H.I.

W. Cunningham.

Veterinary Surgeon :

A. J. McVinnie, M.R.C.V.S.

Clerical Staff :

Miss D. Chambers

Miss S. Bevan

Mr. R. J. Deeley

Miss M. Collins

Miss J. Elwell

Miss E. M. Stokes

(resigned Feb. 1958) (commenced Mar. 1958)

Mr. Mayor, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958, with which is incorporated that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Vital Statistics of the Borough shew that a total of 571 Live Births was recorded during the year, almost identical with the corresponding figure of 572 for the year before. The resultant Live Birth Rate thus remained unchanged at 16.4 per thousand total population. The Adjusted Birth Rate (applying the Registrar General's comparability factor for this district) was 15.0, rather below the national figure of 16.4. Stillbirths rose from 13 to 16, giving a rate of 22.3 per thousand live and stillbirths, compared with the national figure of 21.6. The number of infants dying under one year of age was 19, compared with 11 in the previous year, the mortality rate being 33.2 per thousand live births, compared with 19.2 in 1957. Of these children 14 died under one month, the mortality rate being 24.5.

The number of deaths recorded during 1958 was 364, compared with 337 for the previous twelve months. The calculated Crude Death Rate was thus 10.4 per thousand total population, compared with 9.7, and the Adjusted Death Rate for the Borough 14.3, compared with 13.3 for the year before. The rate for England and Wales for the same period was 11.7. The principal cause of death was again Heart Disease in its various forms, accounting for the very considerable proportion of 32.6% of all deaths, followed by Cancer (all forms) 15.9%, and Respiratory conditions (Pneumonia, &c.) 13.4%. The Natural Increase of the population (excess of births over deaths) was 207, a decrease of 26 on last year's figures.

Concerning Notifiable Infectious Diseases, the year in question showed a most remarkable fall when compared with 1957, there being 98 cases only as against 908. Measles proved to be by far the most common with 55 cases, followed by Pneumonia with 13 cases. Notifications of Whooping Cough fell from 150 to a mere 7, the lowest figure for many years. This particular finding, incidentally, has been observed in districts other than Wednesbury. On the debit side, however, cases of Dysentery rose from 3 to 7, whilst 5 cases of Food Poisoning, compared with none at all the previous year, provided a sad commentary on the extent to which attention was paid to clean food handling. The seriousness of this situation was underlined by the untimely death of one young woman suffering from the latter condition, occurring so rapidly

after onset of symptoms that the organism responsible could not be identified. As a result there was no hope of tracking down this girl's unwitting executioner, and who knows how many more innocent victims have been in peril at his or her unhealthy hands.

In the field of Slum Clearance another advance was made by the Council during the year, when a public local enquiry was held into proposed Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders affecting 135 dwellings in the Darlaston Road district. Owing to the late date of this public hearing, confirmation of the Orders was not received until this present year. When such enquiries take place it is usual for strongly sustained objections to be put forward against the allegations that properties are unfit for human habitation, by owners who may perhaps have lived in them all their lives. The Council and their Officers understand and appreciate this attitude, regretting any anxiety or disturbance of necessity caused to the few who do not wish to move, in the improvement of the conditions of the many who do, thereby executing their statutory duties to the community as a whole. Less easy to appreciate, however, is the defence of even the most outrageously unfit property propounded in so lyrical a fashion as to suggest the preliminaries to a public sale by auction. Whilst it may be conceded that modern methods of redecoration, heating, furnishing and otherwise equipping a house, can transform superficially even a poor one so as to make the official representation that it is seriously substandard appear absurd, nevertheless, they cannot expand the caravan-like dimensions of some houses ; cannot re-site them where they are no longer hemmed-in on all sides by other buildings and flanked by insanitary, unsightly, crumbling outhouses ; cannot reconstruct on a firm foundation damp, disintegrating walls, or renew a fabric which has been exposed to the Black Country atmosphere for maybe more than a century ; cannot provide safe, easy staircases in lieu of ascents little better than ladders ; cannot entirely ensure that food is stored in such conditions that the housewife may confidently and much more economically purchase sufficient to last for several days. Extensive as this list may seem, it does not cover all the cogent criticisms which apply to many of the older properties of the town. The fact is that the great majority of the inhabitants of the town of Wednesbury now enjoy living standards of a high order, excluding only those few whose way of life is itself substandard wherever they may live, so it is surely right and proper that every effort should be made to enable the remainder to obtain similar opportunities.

With regard to the provision of new living accommodation, I am advised by the Borough Surveyor that 137 Local Authority and 19 Private Enterprise houses were erected during the year,

bringing the grand total of houses built in the town since the end of the War to 2,163 by 31st December, 1958. The Housing Manager informs me that three families were re-housed during the year on medical grounds (Tuberculosis).

A new health hazard, insofar as it can be said to come within the province of a Local Authority, was considered at some length during the year at a Sessional Meeting of the Royal Society of Health. This new factor, radio-activity, has been affecting each and everyone of us quite without our knowledge and could, if uncontrolled, or not guarded against, interfere in various ways with the health and wellbeing of all, especially children. Cumulative in character, and able to be detected in foodstuffs, e.g., milk, it follows that the longer or more frequent the exposure the greater the subsequent risk of ill-effects. Thus it is surely not unreasonable for individuals to try and avoid undue exposure to radio-activity, as for example, in excessive use of x-rays for diagnostic or other purposes. Bearing this fact in mind, is it then wise to criticize as being out of date a doctor who, particularly when dealing with children, prefers to use his clinical ability in certain conditions generally referred as a routine to the X-ray Department, or a Shoeshop assistant who chooses to rely upon his own judgment, rather than have recourse to a sort of modern "What-the-butler-saw" peepshow contraption which is supposed to demonstrate the correctness or otherwise of shoe fittings?


An event unlikely to have captured the imagination of the general public, but of great importance, nevertheless, occurred towards the end of the year when a new Municipal Mortuary was opened in Albert Street. This had been designed and constructed by members of the Borough Surveyor's Department who had maintained close liaison throughout with all interested parties, thus ensuring that the building and its equipment should be of the highest standards. It is unlikely that a better can be found anywhere in the Midlands, and the Council have every reason to be well satisfied with the outcome of their resolution that it should be erected. It replaced an appalling building which had served the town as a Mortuary for over 70 years.

This report would not be complete without expressing to the Council in general, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee in particular, the deep gratitude of all the staff of the Health Department for making possible the transfer during the year to better premises at 21, Victoria Street. For over 20 years the department has occupied most unsatisfactory and indeed, insanitary, premises in Holyhead Road from which

operations during the War and the extremely busy post-war years were conducted. For this, for all other assistance and advice offered by members of the Council, Chief Officers and staff of all other departments, and to everyone who has contributed in any way towards the compilation of this report, I offer my grateful thanks.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. M. Summers'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
21, Victoria Street,
Wednesbury.

November, 1959.

SECTION A

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1958.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	2,025
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population, Mid 1958	..					34,700
Population Census 1951	..	..	..	..	..	34,758
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1958 according to the Rate Books) :						
(i) Council Houses	..	..	..	..		4,926
(ii) Other Houses	..	..	..	..		5,311
Total	..	..	..	..		10,237
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£325,883
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..		£1,285

Live Births. (Rate per 1,000 total population).

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Rate for England & Wales.</i>	<i>Borough Rate for 1957</i>
Legitimate	285	274	559			
Illegitimate	10	2	12			
	295	276	571	16.4	16.4	16.4

Still Births. (Rate per 1,000 live and still births).

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Rate for England & Wales.</i>	<i>Borough Rate for 1957.</i>
Legitimate	10	6	16			
Illegitimate	—	—	—			
	10	6	16	22.3	21.6	22.3
Total Births	305	282	587			

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

				<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Legit.)</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Illegit.)</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births England & Wales.</i>
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>				
Legitimate	11	7	18				
Illegitimate	1	—	1				
Total	12	7	19	33.2	31.5	1.7	22.1

Neo-Natal Mortality. (Deaths under four weeks). (Rate per 1,000 live births).

					<i>Rate for England & Wales.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	
Legitimate	9	4	13		
Illegitimate	1	—	1		
Total	10	4	14	24.5	16.2

Illegitimate Live Births as percentage of Total Live Births.

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
3.4	0.72	2.1

Maternal Mortality. (Rate per 1,000 live and still births).

	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Rate for England & Wales.</i>	<i>Rate for Borough 1957.</i>
Number of Women dying during, in, or in consequence of Pregnancy, Child- birth or Abortion— nil	0.0	0.43	1.7

Deaths. (Rate per 1,000 total population).

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Rate for England & Wales.</i>	<i>Rate for Borough 1957.</i>
All causes	197	167	364	10.4	11.7	9.7

Death Rate from specified causes.

	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Population.</i>
From Cancer (all ages)	58	1.6
From Measles (all ages)	—	—
From Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	—	—
From Diarrhoea (under two years) ..	1	0.02

Social Conditions.

The chief industries are iron and steel manufacture, tube manufacture, hot drop stamping, construction steelwork, railway carriage building, edge tool manufacture, electrical engineering, iron foundering, and kindred trades.

Mr. D. Ward, Manager of the Wednesbury Employment Exchange, has kindly given me the following figures, as an approximate indication of the numbers employed in the industries quoted, from information available at the exchange of National Insurance Cards in the quarter beginning June, 1958 :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Metal Manufacturing, including Iron and Steel Rolling and Casting ..	3,545	301	3,846
Iron Foundries	521	162	683
Iron and Steel Tubes	857	355	1,212
Non-ferrous Metals	232	51	283
Engineering	768	282	1,050
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Motor Vehicle Building Repair and Acces- sories	844	35	879
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified ..	2,619	1,788	4,407
Food, Drink Manufacture	301	136	437
Artificial Stone, Bricks, Plastics ..	332	107	439
Sawmilling and woodwork	240	65	305
Building	885	30	915
Total	11,144	3,312	14,456

Approximate Working Population 19,000

			<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Wholly unemployed	..	..	255	(81)	63	(18)	318 (99)
Temporarily Stopped	..	..	211	(3)	27	(1)	238 (4)
Non-Claimants	..	..	—	(2)	27	(22)	27 (24)
			466 (86)		117 (41)		583 (127)

(N.B.—Bracketed figures are those for previous year, for comparison.)

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1958.

Causes of Death	Males	Fe- males	Total	Totals for Previous Years				
				1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Tuberculosis—								
Respiratory ..	5	3	8	8	13	2	8	4
Other	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infec- tions	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases ..	1	2	3	1	2	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm—								
stomach	4	5	9	10	14	10	11	15
lung and bronchus	14	1	15	12	9	13	18	13
breast	—	2	2	6	4	4	3	8
uterus	—	3	3	—	1	—	3	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	15	29	27	33	25	32	25
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2	—	—	2	1	3
Diabetes	—	1	1	3	1	4	1	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	20	25	45	43	49	49	44	34
Coronary disease, angina	32	21	53	27	34	34	38	38
Hypertension with heart disease ..	3	4	7	7	8	8	16	8
Other heart disease ..	15	34	59	49	48	66	62	52
Other circulatory disease	7	6	13	4	9	13	5	12
Influenza	—	—	—	3	2	2	4	3
Pneumonia	10	7	17	12	13	11	12	20
Bronchitis	17	10	27	19	21	27	39	30
Other diseases of res- piratory system ..	3	2	5	1	7	5	5	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	6	3	9	4	5	4	2	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—	2	2	2	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	3	—	3	4	1	6	7	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4	1	3	4	4	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Congenital malformations ..	6	2	8	3	1	3	7	4
Other defined and ill- defined diseases ..	11	13	24	27	27	24	28	28
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3	3	2	6	3	—
All other accidents ..	5	4	9	6	6	9	10	5
Suicide	1	3	4	6	3	6	7	6
Homicide and opera- tions of war ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	197	167	364	293	321	340	372	337

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE, YEAR 1958.

Age	Diseases of Respiratory System	Prematurity	Congenital Malformations	Meningitis	Other defined or ill-defined Diseases	TOTAL
Under 24 hours ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
24 hours to 1 week ..	—	3	4	1	—	8
1 week to 1 month ..	2	—	4	—	—	6
2 months ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
3 months ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
4 months ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
9 months ..	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS ..	3	5	9	1	1	19

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(as at 31st December, 1958)

A number of environmental Health Services are provided by Staffordshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946. For the purpose of administering these services, the County has been subdivided into nine areas, the Borough of Wednesbury forming part of, and giving its name to, Area No. 9. Included in this, the largest Area, is the Borough of Bilston, and the Urban Districts of Willenhall, Darlaston and Wednesfield, the total population involved now standing at just over 150,000. A specific Area Health Committee has been convened to supervise the environmental services which are listed below, and the Borough is represented by three members. Your Medical Officer also serves in the capacity of Medical Officer to the Area Committee.

Ambulance Service. (Section 27).

A 24-hour service is based on Richard Street Station, Darlaston, (Tel. James Bridge 2591/2), and Ambulance movements are now controlled by radio.

Ante-Natal Clinics. (Section 22).

King's Hill (School Street) 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2-15 p.m.

Mesty Croft (Alma Street) 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2-15 p.m.

Health Visiting Services. (Section 24).

Health Visitors are employed in the District by Staffordshire County Council for advice and instruction both in the home and at Infant Welfare Clinics.

Home Help Service. (Section 29).

A number of women are employed for the purpose of assistance in the home during certain adverse conditions and a scale of charges for the service is applied according to financial circumstances. This service is operated from 20, Hydes Road, Wednesbury (Tel. WED 0961).

Home Nursing Service. (Section 25).

Several fully-qualified District Nurses are employed by the County Council for general nursing duties in the home, as required by General Practitioners, or following discharge from hospital.

Immunisation and Vaccination. (Section 26).

Protective treatment against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis is available at Infant Welfare Centres and from General Practitioners.

Infant Welfare Centres. (Section 22).

Three Infant Welfare Centres are maintained within the Borough by Staffordshire County Council, these being :

Albert Street	.. ..	Mondays and Thursdays, 2-15 p.m.
King's Hill (School Street)		Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-15 p.m.
Mesty Croft (Alma Street)		Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 2-15 p.m.

Midwifery. (Section 23).

Confinements in hospital arranged by Clinic and private doctors if on medical grounds ; through Ante-Natal Clinics, if on social grounds. Domiciliary births, and care during the latter part of the puerperium, if discharged from hospital at an early date, are the duty of fully qualified midwives provided by Staffordshire County Council.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care. (Section 28).

This is mainly carried out by a Social Worker for the district provided by Staffordshire County Council who deals with convalescent treatment, assistance with clothing, extra food, and so on. Care of the aged and infirm is more the concern of the Area Welfare Officer.

Other Health Services provided include :

Public Health Laboratory Service, Martin Street, Stafford.

Director : E. M. Mackay-Scollay, M.B., B.S. (Tel. Stafford 377).

Chemical Analysis.

County Analyst : A. Houlbrook, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Chemical Laboratory, County Buildings, Stafford. (Tel Stafford 1181).

Tuberculosis.

Chest Clinic : Church Street, Wednesbury. (Tel. WED 0322).

Chest Physician : Doctor Elizabeth Frew.

Venereal Diseases

Special Clinics at Manor Hospital, Walsall and Guest Hospital, Dudley.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief, the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, within whose statutory area the Borough of Wednesbury falls, has given me the following report in respect of the year 1958 :—

- (i) (a) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality, and
- (b) in quantity.
- (ii) The supply to the Borough of Wednesbury is derived from the Barr Beacon and Hednesford systems. The Barr Beacon system consists of 5 pumping stations and the Hednesford system of 9 pumping stations. These pumping stations are examined regularly, and frequently both bacteriologically and chemically, and where treatment is installed, both before and after treatment.

Regular samples are taken from points within the Borough boundaries at Wednesbury Reservoir, the Waterman's House, Wednesbury, and Wood Green Repumping Station.

During 1958, 23 out of 26 samples from Wednesbury Reservoir were free from coliform bacteria. 2 out of 27 samples from the Waterman's house were free from coliform bacteria. All the 21 samples from Wood Green Repumping Station were also free from coliform bacteria.

The samples were also examined chemically, the average results of the samples from the Waterman's house being :—

pH	..	..	..	..	7.3			
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	..	..	..	107		parts	per	million
Chlorides (Cl)	..	..	..	35.7		„	„	„
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	..	..	..	Trace		„	„	„
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	..	..	..	.070		„	„	„
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	..	..	..	3.1		„	„	„
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C)	..	..	..	.78		„	„	„
Temporary Hardness	..	..	..	102		„	„	„
Permanent Hardness	..	..	..	76		„	„	„

Total Hardness	..	..	178	parts for million
Iron (Fe)	..	..	.04	,, ,, ,,
Manganese (Mn)	..	..	Nil	,, ,, ,,
Poisonous Metals (Cu & Pb)			Nil	,, ,, ,,
Free Cl	..	..	Nil	,, ,, ,,

- (iii) The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, 26 samples from the Waterman's house being all free from lead.
- (iv) Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations as a precautionary measure.

In cases of possible contamination in the event of burst or damaged mains, emptying reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special apparatus and staff are available for this work. New mains, etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.

- (v) The following are particulars of the number of houses supplied and the approximate population :—

(a)	10,302 houses supplied direct at 3.4 persons per house = approx. 35,027 persons
(b)	112 houses from out- side taps at 3.4 persons per house .. = approx. 381 persons
	<hr/> 10,414 houses = approx. 35,408 <hr/>

Drainage and Sewerage.

Mr. Norman Ashworth, A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer, reports :

“ The sewerage system functioned satisfactorily during the year ended 31st December, 1958, and no stoppages occurred. An extension to the surface water sewer was carried out in Holyhead Road, and a storm relief sewer was laid in Myvod Road.

The treatment of sewage at the Outfall Works was performed as satisfactorily as possible with the existing plant.”

The rainfall for the year was 29.83 ins.” (N.B.—in 1957 it was 25.7 ins.)

SECTION D**SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955,
DURING THE YEAR 1958.**

Details of inspections and actions taken will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Ramage), informs me that during 1958 the following samples were taken in Wednesbury :—

Milk.

Milk Pasteurised	23
Milk Sterilised	..	..	..	32
Milk T.T. Pasteurised	..	..		30
Milk T.T. Pasteurised Channel Island				15
				<hr/>
				100 All genuine
				<hr/>

General Foods.

Number of samples taken	..	..	49
Number of samples genuine	..		46
Number of samples adulterated	..		3

Classification of General Foods.

Pork Sausage with preservative (4 samples).	Ground Nut Oil.
Meat Pies.	American Top Grade Loaf.
Soft Bread Rolls.	Milk Loaf.
Milk Shake Powder (Strawberry).	Orange Flavoured Sulphur Tablets.
Compound Tablets in Codein B.P.	Strong Peppermint Medicinal Lozenges.
Cough Remedy.	Energy Tablets.
Liquid Paraffin B.P.	Buttered Peas.
Processed Peas.	Garden Peas.
Irish Beef Mince.	Lambs Tongues.
Mandarin Oranges in light syrup.	Marzipan.
	95% Stewed Steak.
	Fancy Red Salmon.

Bronchial Tablets.
 Slimming Wafers.
 Cherries with Semolina.
 Shropshire Double Cream.
 Butter and Cheese Spread.
 Lard.
 Beef Steak with Gravy.
 Dairy Buttermints.
 Sour Lemon Sweets.
 Old Fashioned Humbugs.
 Semolina.
 Sauce.
 Fruit Sauce.
 Almond Flavouring.

Beef and other Meat Paste.
 Malt Vinegar.
 Christmas Pudding.
 Skinless Frankfurter Sausages.
 Tablets of Aspirin B.P.
 Instant Piping.
 Orange Drink.
 Lemon (2 samples).
 Apples.

Particulars of Adulterated Samples.

Milk Loaf

Deficient in non-fatty solids.

Energy Tablets

Contains no Vitamin "C".

Buttered Peas.

Butter not included in list of ingredients.

Action Taken.

Whole question of standards for names of particular types of bread and enriched bread is at present under review by the Food Standards Committee.

Date of packing now being marked on product.

Correct labels now being used.

Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.

The Summary of Retail Milks sampled by the County Public Health Department during 1958 is set out in the Table which follows.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS

SUMMARY OF RETAIL MILKS SAMPLED BY THE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DURING THE YEAR 1958.

Designation	No. of Samples Taken	Cleanliness Test (Methylene Blue)		Phosphatase Test (for Pasteurisation)		Turbidity Test (for Sterilisation)	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ..	23	18	—	23	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	20	15	—	20	—	—	—
Sterilised ..	15	—	—	—	—	15	—
TOTALS ..	58	33	—	43	—	15	—

SECTION E.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

8 cases were reported, compared with 12 in 1957.

Whooping Cough.

The number of cases reported during the year showed a remarkable drop from that of 150 for 1957, only 7 notifications being received.

Measles.

55 cases were notified, compared with 706 in 1957.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of this disease notified for the fifth year in succession.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases were reported during 1958, compared with one in the previous year. It will be a matter of great interest in future to observe the outcome of anti-poliomyelitis vaccination, as reflected in the number of cases notified.

Pneumonia.

13 cases were reported against 32 in 1957.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

		<i>Number.</i>		<i>Rate per 1,000 Population.</i>		<i>Provisional Rate—England and Wales.</i>
All Forms	..	8	..	0.22	..	0.100
Pulmonary	..	8	..	0.22	..	0.089
Non-pulmonary	..	—	..	0.00	..	0.011

Sputum Examinations.

<i>Sender.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>
Chest Clinic	353	12	331
General Practitioners ..	11	1	10

Tuberculosis Cases.

Number on Public Health Department Register (at 31/12/58) :

<i>Year.</i>	<i>New Cases.</i>				<i>Deaths.</i>	
	<i>No. on Register. (all forms).</i>	<i>Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary.</i>	
1938 ..	173	26	5	18	2	
1946 ..	183	39	4	25	1	
1947 ..	208	46	5	20	2	
1948 ..	235	70	3	25	6	
1949 ..	257	51	5	27	3	
1950 ..	271	63	2	25	6	
1951 ..	310	71	8	22	4	
1952 ..	322	58	3	13	2	
1953 ..	360	71	4	8	1	
1954 ..	307	32	1	13	2	
1955 ..	323	39	3	3	—	
1956 ..	360	25	2	7	—	
1957 ..	359	30	4	3	—	
1958 ..	346	27	2	8	—	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis) IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION, 1958

DISEASES.	Numbers originally notified	Final Numbers after Correction										Wards					Deaths	Cases admitted to Hospital	
		Under 1 year	1+ year	2+ years	3+ years	4+ years	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	Age Un-known	Total All Ages	Town	King's Hill	Mesty Croft	Wood Green			Manor
Scarlet Fever :	4	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	4 } 8	2	3	—	3	—	—	5
Males ...	4	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4 } 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough :	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 } 7	—	1	2	1	3	—	1
Males ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 } 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	3	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(Paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(Non-paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles :	24	1	3	5	4	2	9	—	—	—	—	24 } 55	21	5	8	9	12	—	—
Males ...	31	—	4	3	3	6	13	2	—	—	—	31 } —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery :	4	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	4 } 7	3	1	3	—	—	—	1
Males ...	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3 } —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia :	8	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	8 } 13	1	2	1	1	5	—	1
Males ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5 } —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning :	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1 } 2	1	—	—	1	—	1	2
Males ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 } —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1 } 3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	98	7	10	8	8	14	30	4	4	10	—	95	28	12	17	17	21	1	10

TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1958.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 Year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 „ ..	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 „ ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—64 „ ..	8	2	1	—	5	2	—	—
65 years and over ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	15	12	1	1	5	3	—	—

MISCELLANEA.**Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.**

Particulars of Inspections and Defects found and remedied are recorded in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Medical Examinations, 1958.**Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1937.**

<i>Examined.</i>		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Admitted</i>
10	..	4	..	6	..	10

Corporation Sick Pay Scheme.

<i>Examined.</i>		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Admitted.</i>
24	..	21	..	3	..	18

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amendment Act, 1951).

Action was found necessary under the above Act in September, 1958, when an elderly man was removed to a place of safety under a three-week Detention Order obtained from a local Magistrate.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the report of the work carried out by my department for the year 1st January, 1958, to the 31st December, 1958. The Cleansing Section covers the financial year 1st April, 1958 to the 31st March, 1959.

Once again I have to report changes in my Clerical Staff. Miss Mary A. Collins resigned her position as a junior clerk with my department on 1st March, 1958. To fill the vacancy of a Junior Clerk Miss Joan Elwell was engaged and commenced work with my department on 19th March, 1958.

The Inspectorial Staff again remained unchanged.

Public Health Act, 1936.

The following tables shows the results of Formal and Informal Notices served by the Department during the year :—

Number of complaints received	128
Number of Informal Notices served	119
Number of premises affected	140
Number of Informal Notices complied with	140
Number of premises affected by compliance	76
Number of Formal Notices served	18
Number of premises affected	18
Number of Formal Notices complied with	18
Number of premises affected by compliance	10

Structural Defects Remedied as a Result of Public Health

Inspector's Visits and Notices Served.

General House Defects—Main Buildings.

	<i>Remedied.</i>
Roofs	7
House brickwork	1
House brickwork pointing	1
Rainwater spouting and eaves gutter	7
Chimneys	2

							<i>Remedied.</i>
Chimney pointing	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wall plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ceiling Plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Firegrates	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Firegrate surround	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Window Frames	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Window sashes	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Window glazing	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Window sashcords	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Windows	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Floors Living-room	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Floors Bedrooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Skirting Boards	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Attic Skylight	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Steps	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Wash-house and Sculleries.

Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rainwater spouting and eaves gutter	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sinks	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sink wastes	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Water Closet and Coal Houses.

Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Flushing cisterns	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cone connection	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Flush pipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pedestal seats	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wall plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Yards.

Inspection Chamber Covers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defective wall	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Yard Door	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Verandahs and Covered Passages.

Entry doors illfitting	1
------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Refuse Accommodation.

Dustbins	265
----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

*Remedied.***Drainage.**

Drains obstructed	..	..	..	..	..	227
Waste water closet conversions	..	..	..	..	..	2

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Disinfection is carried out after Infectious Disease cases have either been removed to hospital or otherwise terminated. Disinfestation refers to Bugs, Beetles, Crickets, Ants, etc.

Number of houses disinfected	..	..	..	..	10
Number of Council houses disinfested for bugs	..				1
Number of Council houses disinfested for other pests					39
Number of other houses disinfested for bugs	..	..			3
Number of other houses disinfested for other pests	..				38

Housing Act, 1957.

Under the provisions of the above, the following were dealt with as stated.

Demolition orders made during the year.

- 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, Brookside, Wednesbury.
- 49, 50, 51, Camp Street, Wednesbury.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, Cook Street Terrace, Wednesbury.
- 17, 18, 19a, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, Dudley Street, Wednesbury.
- 62, 63, Elwell Street, Wednesbury.
- 33, 34, High Bullen, Wednesbury.
- "Beechcroft," 1, Hobs Road, Wednesbury.
- 25, Loxdale Street, Wednesbury.
- 89, 90, 91, 92, Oxford Street, Wednesbury.
- 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, Potters Lane, Wednesbury.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Court 2, Potters Lane, Wednesbury.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Court 3, Potters Lane, Wednesbury.
- 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, Walsall Road, Wednesbury.
- 35, 37, 39, 41, Wellcroft Street, Wednesbury.

Local Authority owned Houses Certified Unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.

89, Albert Street, Wednesbury.

Application for Determination of a Closing Order.

90, Albert Street—Not Determined.

The following were rehoused during the year.

1 family affected by closing orders.
 29 families affected by demolition orders.
 1 family rehoused after undertakings had been accepted.
 52 families rehoused from clearance area.
 2 families rehoused from Local Authority owned houses
 certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.

The following were demolished during the year.

89, Albert Street, Wednesbury.
 17, Bridge Street, Wednesbury.
 18, Bridge Street, Wednesbury.
 "Beechcroft," 1, Hobs Road, Wednesbury.
 239, 241, 243, 245, Darlaston Road, Wednesbury.
 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, King Street, Wednesbury.
 21, Meeting Street, Wednesbury.
 1, 3, 5, Mill Street, Wednesbury.
 14, 16, Park Street, Wednesbury.
 70, 71, 72, Portway Road, Wednesbury.
 17, 19, 21, 23, Wellcroft Street, Wednesbury.
 67, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury.

Premises demolished in Clearance Areas :

13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, King Street,
 Wednesbury.
 50; 51, 52, 53, Cross Street, Wednesbury.
 150, 151, Holyhead Road, Wednesbury.

Action taken under Housing and Public Health Acts with respect to Unfit Houses.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|-------|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 364 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 1,741 |

(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act 1957.	206
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	907
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	185

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	76
--	---	----

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under section 9, and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice ..	Nil
(1)	By Owners	Nil
(2)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	18
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices	
(1)	By Owners	10
(2)	By Local Authority in default of owner ..	—
(c)	Proceedings under Section 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957.	

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.. ..	85
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.. ..	27
(d)	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.		
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	.. .. . . . . .	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	.. .. . . . . .	Nil

Meat and other Foods.

(Food and Drugs and Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders).

The table of inspections under this heading is shown later. The only Slaughterhouse in the Borough is at the Bacon Factory. The columns in the following table shown blank are due to the fact that only pigs are killed and inspected.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Horses	Pigs
Number killed ..	—	—	—	—	—	40,511
Number inspected ..	—	—	—	—	—	40,511
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci— Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	79
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	—	—	—	—	—	5,043
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	—	—	—	—	—	12.6
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	21
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	1,360
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	3.4
Cysticercosis— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	Nil

The amount of meat recorded as condemned in connection with the above table was 20 tons 5 cwts. 3 qrs. 3 lbs.

Other foods inspected and found unfit for human food included the following :—

					<i>Cwts. Qrs. lbs. ozs.</i>			
154 tins of meat	..	..	..	..	4	3	0	12½
494 tins and jars of fruit			..	..	5	1	23	0
29 tins of fish	..	..	..	..	—	—	11	8½
8 tins of soup	..	..	..	..	—	—	7	7
Cheese	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	8
30 tins of vegetables		..	..	..	—	—	21	10½
64 tins of milk	..	..	..	..	—	1	27	4½
1 jar of Bovril	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	0
14 tins and jars of Meat paste	..		..	..	—	—	1	2
1 tin of sponge pudding			..	..	—	—	—	10½
1 tin of spaghetti		..	..	..	—	—	1	8
3 jars of pickles	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	14
1 tin of mixed grill	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	7½
1 jar of marmalade	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	0
Shoulder of ham	..	..	..	..	—	—	9	11
1 jar of fish paste	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	2¾
2 bottles sauce	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	5
5 bars and packets of chocolate			..	..	—	—	1	8
1 tin of cream	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	4
The Total weight of other foods condemned is therefore					12	3	3	11¾

Condemned food is disposed of by steam digester.

Food Preparing and Storage Premises.

Under the general term Food Preparing and Storage Premises, work has been carried out in the supervision of the following :

Industrial Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	27
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	15
Restaurants and Snack Bars		..	..	..	..	20
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	32
Grocers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	79
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	33
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	24
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	..	13
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	8
Licensed Premises (Inns and Hotels)	..		..	..	..	85

Ice Cream.

During the year there were 6 new registrations for the sale of ice cream. There is now a total of 107 vendors who purchase ice cream from manufacturers outside the Borough whose premises and products are satisfactory to the respective Authority concerned.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949/1954.

These regulations require the issue of licences to those who wish to retail milk in the Borough. Consequently you authorised the following :—

<i>Dealer's Licences.</i>			<i>Supplementary Licences.</i>		
Pasteurised	..	13	Pasteurised	.. ..	6
Sterilised	..	55	Sterilised	.. ..	8
Tuberculin Tested		1	Tuberculin Tested	..	3
			T.T. (Pasteurised)	..	3

The Public Health Laboratory Service of the Staffordshire County, situated at Stafford, carry out any Bacteriological Analysis and Chemical Examination required and during the year the following were submitted :—

- 21 Samples of Swimming Bath Water for Bacteriological Examinations.
- 18 Samples of Swimming Bath Water for Chemical Analysis.
- 9 Samples of Sewage and Effluent for Chemical Analysis.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954.

11 persons were licensed during the year to slaughter Animals in the Borough.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Under the term Rodent Control 368 complaints of Rat Infestation affected 305 dwelling houses and 63 Business premises and 96 complaints of Mice Infestation affected 79 dwelling houses and 17 business premises.

These infestations required 1,683 visits.

In connection with Rat Infestation at six cases the sewers nearby were treated and in each case clearance was completed.

Pet Animals 1951.

As authorised officer I visited the premises of five persons who applied for licences under this Act. The premises were satisfactory and were consequently licensed until the end of the year.

Atmospheric Pollution.

We have continued with the two observation stations first set up in the Borough in January, 1952. One station is in the garden of the Convent School, Church Hill, and the second at the Cemetery Lodge, Beebee Road, the highest and lowest points in the town respectively.

The deposit gauges and Sulphur Candles installed at the Stations are changed monthly and forwarded to the County Laboratory at Stafford for the required analysis. These results are then passed to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Fuel Research Station at Greenwich.

All neighbouring authorities have set up similar stations and thus the extent of Air Pollution over a large area can be readily ascertained.

The following tables shows the results for the period under review.

Month	Station	Rainfall in inches	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO3 mg/day/100 cm2 of Batch Lead Peroxide
			tons per square mile			
January ..	1	1.37	6.90	4.07	10.97	2.87
	2	1.58	7.76	2.89	10.65	3.48
February ..	1	4.37	9.07	11.33	20.40	3.45
	2	3.86	8.27	12.94	21.21	3.56
March	1	1.38	5.67	5.03	10.70	2.21
	2	1.34	7.60	5.50	13.10	2.74
April	1	0.99	6.64	4.44	11.08	2.13
	2	0.87	7.80	3.85	11.65	2.21
May	1	2.13	7.67	5.20	12.87	1.15
	2	2.17	5.97	5.57	11.54	1.27
June	1	4.02	7.42	17.68	25.10	1.02
	2	3.79	10.39	10.31	20.70	1.07
July	1	4.14	12.40	9.07	21.47	0.81
	2	4.22	6.10	9.26	15.36	0.71
August ..	1	2.05	5.00	2.67	7.67	0.61
	2	1.97	7.93	2.66	10.59	0.63
September ..	1	3.70	7.34	9.14	61.48	1.05
	2	3.98	8.03	10.89	18.92	1.15
October . ..	1	2.68	5.34	6.23	11.57	1.18
	2	2.68	4.64	5.51	10.15	1.90
November ..	1	1.97	4.00	6.07	10.07	1.57
	2	1.85	5.54	5.97	11.51	3.09
December ..	1	2.96	5.47	9.51	14.98	3.03
	2	2.96	13.14	8.06	21.20	3.46

Factories Act, 1937, and 1948.

The following list of Factories shows the types of trades being carried on in the Borough during the period under review.

						<i>No. on Register.</i>
Mechanical Factories.						
Aerated Waters	..	..	..	..	..	3
Aluminium Castings		..	..	..	..	4
Axle Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bacon Curing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	..	10
Bed Fitting	..	..	..	..	..	1
Beer Bottling	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bolts and Nuts	..	..	..	..	..	11
Boot Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	8
Brass Castings	..	..	..	..	..	3
Brickworks	..	..	..	..	..	1
Buckle Covering	..	..	..	..	..	1
Car Frame Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	1
Carpentry and Joinery		..	..	..	..	11
Carriage Works	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chain Works	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chemical Preparations		..	..	..	..	1
Coffin Makers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cooperage	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cycle Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	3
Die Sinkers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Drop Forgings	..	..	..	..	..	7
Edge Tool Makers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Electrical Accessories		..	..	..	..	4
Electricians	..	..	..	..	..	3
Electricity Depot	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enamelling	..	..	..	..	..	2
Engineers	..	..	..	..	..	13
Firewood Cutters	..	..	..	..	..	1
Galvanisers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Garage Motor Vehicle Repairs		..	..	..	..	11
Gas Cookers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hay Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	2
Holloware	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ice Cream Storage	..	..	..	..	..	1
Iron Castings	..	..	..	..	..	7
Laundry	..	..	..	..	..	2
Leather Working	..	..	..	..	..	1
Metal Pressing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Metal Stampers	..	..	..	..	..	3

						<i>No. on Register.</i>
Motor Body Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Oil Storage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Optical Ware .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pattern Makers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4
Plastic Products .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4
Plating (Chrome) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pre-Cast Housing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Printers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Radiator Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sack Makers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sausage Making .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	6
Saw Milling .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Scale Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sheet Metal Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Spring Making .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Steel Milling .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Steel Producing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Stockists (Iron and Steel) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tailoring .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tool Making .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tube Fittings .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tube Making .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4
Wagon Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Washer Stamping .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Water Works Depot .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Window Maker (Metal) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Welding .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2

Non-Mechanical Factories.

Blacksmiths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Boot Repairing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4
Builders .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	19
Carpentry and Joinery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Electricians .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Glaziers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Painters .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	8
Paper Ornaments .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Photographers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Plumbers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Radio Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sculptors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Upholsterers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hairdressers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	27
Building Operations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	6

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.**1.—Inspections.**

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Author- ities	7	4	—	—
(2) Factories not in- cluded in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	212	56	2	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out- workers ..	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	219	60	2	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Convenience (S.7)—				
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	2
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	2	2	—	2

Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1) Institutions. Section 104) and site of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Section 107 and 108).

PART VIII

SECTION 110 and 111—Nil.

Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The method of disposal by tipping continues. At the tip off Riverway progress had been made in reclaiming land as far as the end of Moor Street. In June, on request, the tipping was transferred to a large hole on the corner of Margaret Road and Holyhead Road. The depth was such that it took three layers to complete the work and the final ashing of the top was finished the first week in March, 1959. For the year under review the tipping then went back to the site at the end of Moor Street.

During the year two men commenced with this Section and one ceased. Unfortunately during February and March, 1959, owing to the most serious amount of sickness ever experienced the strength of the section was depleted by five men the first and second weeks, seven men the third and eight men the fourth and four men the fifth week, the collection work fell very badly behind.

The Calf-Dozer obtained in July, 1957, for use on the disposal work at the tip has proved a boon. It is significant to note that the net cost for disposal during the year under review is almost half the cost of the previous year.

Owing to the closing down of the processing plant to which I delivered our waste food collections, at the end of January, 1959, I ceased this part of our Salvage work. The total weight of all Salvage collected and sold amounted to 452 tons and realised an income of £2,894.

The details of tonnage and cost of collection and disposal are shown in the following table.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE ACCOUNT.

1958	Year ended 31st March	1959	Per ton Collected	Per 1,000 Houses	Per 1,000 Population	Equivalent Rate in £
£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
19,979	Collection and Salvage—					
3,363	Total Expenditure ..	20,268 0 0	2 3 1	1,976 8 0	584 1 10	1 3.90
	Total Income ..	2,910 0 0	6 2	283 15 3	83 17 3	2.38
16,616	NET COST ..	17,358 0 0	1 16 11	1,692 12 9	500 4 7	1 1.62
	Disposal of Refuse—					
1,968	Total Expenditure ..	1,128 0 0	2 5	109 19 11	32 10 2	.89
109	Total Income ..	215 0 0	6	20 19 4	6 3 11	.17
1,859	NET COST ..	913 0 0	1 11	89 0 7	26 6 3	.72
18,475	TOTAL COST OF COLLECTION and DISPOSAL OF REFUSE ..	18,271 0 0	1 18 10	1,781 13 4	526 10 10	1 2.34
(1)	Number of tons of refuse collected and salvage collected during the year 1958/59 ..	9,400	(4) Rateable Value at 31st March, 1959 ..	£327,492		
(2)	Number of houses at 31st March, 1959 ..	10,255	(5) Product of a penny rate for 1958/59 ..	£1,274 7s. 0d.		
(3)	Population at 31st December, 1958 ..	34,700	(6) Weight of refuse collected per 1,000 population per day ..	14.843 cwts		

Statement of Sanitary Inspections and Visits.

<i>Nature.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Accumulation	71
Dwellings (P.H.A. 36)	884
Drainage	357
Dirty Conditions	35
Infectious Diseases	59
Offensive Trades	1
Piggeries	32
Collection and Disposal of refuse	137
Accommodation for storage of refuse	240
Smoke Abatement Observations	37
Smoke Abatement Visits	51
Vermin	30
Interviews	477
Tents, Vans and Sheds	88
Dwellings (H.A. 57)	901
Overcrowding	6
Bakehouses	9
Butchers	23
Food Preparing Premises	41
Fried Fish Shops	1
Ice Cream Shops	38
Milk Shops	10
Other Food Shops	68
Slaughterhouses	355
Sampling	35
Food Hygiene Regulation visits	120
Mechanical Factories	56
Non-Mechanical Factories	4
Outworkers	2
Rats	1,099
Mice	87
Other Pests	24
Markets	143
Atmospheric Pollution	73
Pet Shop	11
Food Poisoning	16
Rent Act, 1957	159

My thanks are due to the whole of the Public Health and Depot Staff for their hard work and close and careful attention to all matters.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the members of the Council, Chief Officers and their staffs my sincere thanks for their continued confidence, help and goodwill at all times.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FREDK. J. TURNER,

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector.